



Wednesday~ 6th March 1895

In the morning at about 8 we reached Siliguri where the small Darjilling Himalayan Railway commenced. It is only like a steam [+++] [tram] way. The first portion of the journey is through thick dense forest. The train toils *[sic]* up like a serpent in a zig zag way. From Kurswang the climate changed and it

became cold. At Shoom 7407 ft. the highest point it was extreme cold and we passed through dense masses of clouds. From Shoom ascended Darjilling a few hundred feet and the sight of the town was extremely pretty. The people belong to the mongolian race with broad flat faces and small eyes. The trees and plants were all of the temperate regions.

Thursday~ 7th March 1895

Early in the morning we went up Observatory Hill to see the snowy ranges but it was a very cloudy morning. We waited till the clouds cleared up a little and were glad to have glimpse of the snow through clouds. It was a sublime scene. In the afternoon we saw a great deal of the town ascending and descending the steep streets. The Botanical garden is neatly laid out and contains all the trees and flowers of the temperate regions. The tribes of people found are the Lepchas [Lepchas], Bhootas [Bootias],⁶³ Tibetians, Nepalis and they have their own languages. They profess a form of Buddhism.

Friday~ 8th March 1895

We took breakfast early and getting into the train at 10 began to descend down the mountains. At 'Ghoom' the highest railway station in the Old World we again met the Witch whose photographs have been taken by several. As we descended lower and lower the change of climate was very marked. We began gradually to unbutton and cast off one dress after another. We had with us our fellow travellers a missionary and a Parsee.⁶⁴ Reached Siliguri at night fall.

Saturday~ 9th March 1895

At early dawn we reached Saraghaut and crossed over the Ganges which presented a charming spectacle lit up by the rising sun and dotted with small boats. As the people were rushing up the hills from the hot plains, there was no crowd in the down mail. Reached Calcutta at 11. In the evening visited the Eden Gardens. At night went to the 'Star' to witness a Bengali Performance of the Destruction of the God of Love. The singing was good though the acting was not as good as we expected.

Sunday~ 10th March 1895

In the morning visited 'Fort William' where the cannons of all sizes and the beautifully piled up iron balls struck us with wonder. In the evening crossed the Howrah Bridge and drove a long way off to see the Botanical Garden

